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Yet Another Change for the UNO Library

by Eileen Kenney
Senior Staff Writer

Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the library...

It may have taken a semester or two, but you've finally mastered the stacks, Genisys is your friend, and you've broken the secret Lexis/Nexis code with its ci, kw, fu and pp. Research - no problem. Well, wake up and smell the coffee, there's a hint of change in the air.

The UNO library has recently renewed its contract for access to the Lexis/Nexis network for the upcoming fiscal year, but the price was high and promises with each succeeding year to become prohibitively higher still. As a result, the library may have to discontinue or reduce Lexis/Nexis access by next fiscal year, according to Carole Larson, UNO Public Services librarian.

Last year the library

paid \$4,800 for access. Three users could access the service simultaneously from two terminals in the library and/or remote access points in academic offices. This year the price is more than \$7,700 with no remote capability, leaving only two-person access from the terminals in the library. By next fiscal year the price is expected to jump to \$13,000 for this same reduced service.

Rest assured, no matter

what changes result from the price hikes, students and faculty won't be left hanging when it comes to research, said John Reidelbach, chairman of collections management. "We will find some kind of alternative, whether it is Academic Universe or not, or 'Academic Universe' plus something else," he said.

"Academic Universe" is the alternative database offered by Congressional Information Services, Inc.

(CIS), the parent company of Lexis/Nexis, and one CIS would prefer universities to use. Both Reidelbach and Karen Ingish, Interim Chairman of Public Services, said that from conversations with CIS representatives, it is their impression that university library systems are being "gently forced" by the prohibitive pricing to drop the Lexis/Nexis service. "They're doing it on purpose," see LIBRARY, page 2

UNMC Minority Program Continues

by Heather Clark
Staff Writer

The University of Nebraska Medical Center will continue to operate the Minority College and High School Student Summer Program despite losing federal funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

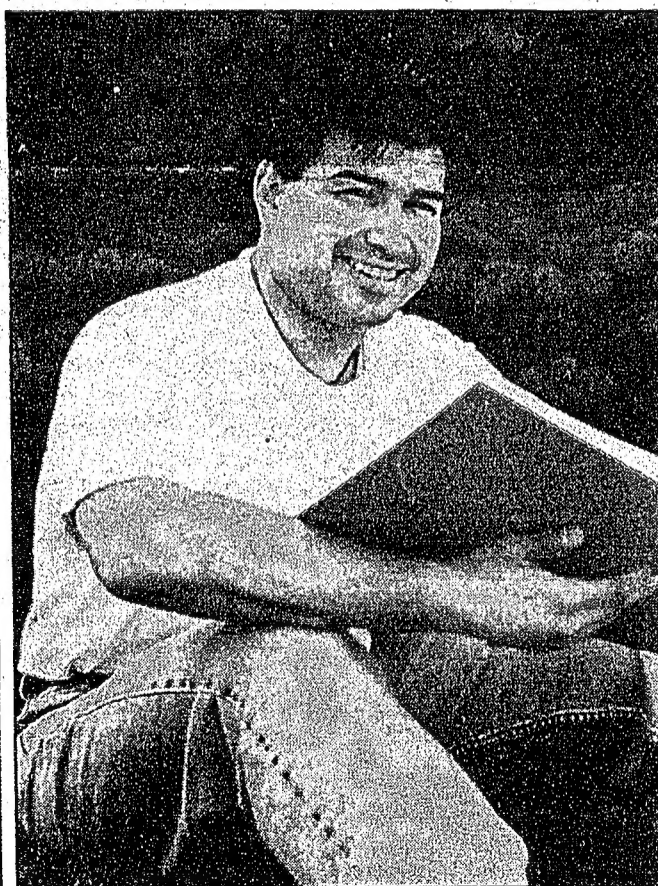
Last fall, the NIH changed the selection criteria for students to include economic data from the students' families. Terry Lawson, Ph.D., professor in the Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases and program coordinator, wanted the selection process to remain focused on student interest and academic standing, and began searching for alternative funding. His efforts generated donations totaling more than \$35,000. The donations came from the UNMC Eppley Cancer Center, the College of Medicine and the College of Nursing.

"When you consider the impact this program has had on students, the \$35,000 to \$40,000 it takes to run the program, really isn't a lot of money for an institution like UNMC," Lawson told UNMC Public Affairs. "In fact, it's actually a good investment for it will help produce some of the scientists of tomorrow."

The program is publicized in all metro-area schools, some area churches and on the Internet. A committee of UNMC faculty reviewed about 100 applications this year. Selection was based on transcripts, letters of recommendation and a narrative explaining why the student has an interest in the program. The program began June 8, and this year there are seven high school and five college students, as well as two teachers participating. The teachers either represent a minority or work closely with a large number of minority students.

Lawson said most students apply because they have an interest in the health-care field. For some, this interest arose because of a family member who needed medical attention in the past. He also said a number of minority students want to continue their medical education so they can return to their communities to work after completing their training.

A Talk with Sanchez: Looking Back On Six Months In Office



Student President /Regent Joey Sanchez talks with reporter Craig Perkins about his accomplishments since taking office last fall. For full story see page 7.

Construction Costs Parking

by Dustin Pappas
Staff Writer

It's hard to believe the construction between the Eppley Administration Building and the Milo Bail Student Center is a project to improve the efficiency of the university, but it's true.

Those who have seen this time consuming project have witnessed the digging and refilling of what looks like a small moat through the middle of the lot. The project has made a half dozen parking spots inaccessible to service vehicles.

David Irvin, manager of Facilities Planning and Management, assures that the school is neither digging for treasure or trying to ward off barbarian invaders.

The university is replacing the old electrical distribution system with a new, more efficient one. The new system will cut down on a number of power surges that have occurred on campus.

Irvin sees the construction completed this month, and the parking spots reopened; not for students but for the milk trucks and plumbing vans that may need to visit campus.

Upcoming construction projects on campus will put even more parking on the friz, according to Irvin. With the razing of Annex 39, next month, student parking will

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Mavs Add Another Receiver

The Mav football team added another receiver to the team recently when Nick Shaw of West Mendham, N.J. signed a letter of intent.

Shaw was an all-state wide receiver and caught 64 passes for over 1,100 yards last season. He measures in at 6-foot-3, weighs

210 pounds and runs the 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds.

Shaw will become another one of quarterback Ed Thompson's targets joining MarTay Jenkins, Yano Jones, Vong Xaykosal and Tim Sullivan as wide receivers for the Mavs.

Becker's Return Brings Campus Security

by Wendy Townley
News Editor

Two Campus Security officers and Marie Lee, staff secretary III of psychology, greeted psychology professor Gordon Becker June 22, the Monday following the June 20 University of Nebraska Board of Regents meeting, Becker's first day back to class following their vote discontinuing his tenure.

Becker arrived on the fourth floor of Allwine Hall, ready to teach his 7:30 a.m. class, Personality & Adjustment. He and several of his students began entering the classroom when two Campus Security officers, as well as Marie Lee, informed Becker that he had lost his job.

Becker said Lee told the students they were free to leave.

Dean of Arts and Sciences John Flocken said the announcement made to Becker and his students was a "mistake on part of the department chair." He also said that Kenneth Deffenbacher Ph.D, chair of the psychology department, saw the information surrounding Becker's tenure, and assumed the termination was effective immediately.

Flocken said Deffenbacher attended the June 20 Board of Regents meeting and informed Lee to meet Becker at his Monday class. Lee then requested two campus security officers to be present at Becker's classroom.

Assistant Manager of Campus Security Paul Kosel said that Campus Security officers were present as a result of the request of a university staff member.

"We didn't really know what

they (officers) would be doing. All we were told was that they were needed," Kosel said.

Senior Kerry Hieb is one of Becker's students enrolled in his Personality and Adjustment class.

"They (Lee and Campus Security) said there's no class, 'leave if you want.' He (Becker) said he wanted to talk; he did. He called it harassment. I didn't think it was. I was glad the campus cops were there ... I'm the only one who thinks it's not harassment," she said.

However, another of Becker's students, senior Sara Liefer, said she saw the presence of Campus Security as an "insult ... considering if I had taught here

for so long ... If this whole thing would have been legitimate, they would have decided this, what they wanted to do with him, before he was going to teach a summer class ... we're the ones who are sitting in the class, we are the ones who might have lost the professor we signed up for the class with."

Monday following the Regents' vote, Hieb said that in class, Becker wanted to "give us the 'poor me' speech, he read the letter that they apparently gave to him (from Regent Drew Miller) ... the letter said he was abusive, and I told him that he was."

Leifer said that she personally does not have anything against him "at all. When you are here to learn, you need to be listening to your instructor or professor and I think in that sense you are more open to understanding and thinking. You don't necessarily have to accept, though."

Deffenbacher was out of town and could not be reached for comment.

Dean of Arts and Sciences John Flocken said the announcement made to Becker and his students was a "mistake on part of the department chair."

From LIBRARY, page 1

Library Sees More Changes

Reidelbach said. "They've made it clear the academic market is not a large market for them."

Offering Lexis/Nexis outside the corporate market was a money-losing proposition, Ingish said. University systems are usually offered a flat rate for access, while the corporate client pays for each password, each search, and each print out. "While \$7,000 might seem a high price for our access, it was not unusual when I was in the private sector to budget more than \$110,000 annually for (database) access," she said.

Library personnel will be looking at different providers and different databases in the coming year to prepare for decision-making next year. "CIS realizes they have a market and are finding other products for us," Ingish said. "Meanwhile, we have enough time to scope out not only their product, but competitors as well to see what meets the needs of our students and the UNO community. We're going to do our best to find the best product."

"What makes Lexis/Nexis so excellent is its full-text capability," Ingish said. "Without that, 85-90 percent of the information is available in citation from our other databases. (Without Lexis/Nexis) it would become a two-step process - first getting the citation, then doing some legwork to find the actual article. It might be a little old fashioned, but what you are paying for with Lexis/Nexis is that full-text."

On the positive side, Ingish said more and more database vendors are looking at providing full-text. "By the time we get to where we may have to break away from a high-cost product, we will have an idea of more affordable services to take its place and offer equivalent," she said.

lency," she said.

"None of the offerings looked at is inexpensive," Reidelbach said. "That's just the nature of electronic services anymore. It used to be the crisis of the periodical, now it's the crisis of the electronic database. The fact is, we have to have resources for our faculty, staff and students to fill in this information and we need either Lexis/Nexis or some combination of services that will meet the majority of the need."

Should UNO decide to go with CIS's offering of "Academic Universe," which representatives said provides the same news, business and law files that Lexis/Nexis provides, minus only the "heavy duty" legal resources, students, faculty and staff would have to re-learn how to access the files. There would be an upside however, Ingish said. "The 'Academic Universe' search capability conforms more to the other products we currently have. It will be easier to use and the learning curve will be much shorter for both students and faculty," she said.

Because Academic Universe is a web-based product, there is also the possibility of offering off-campus access, something currently available with Genisys, but not with Lexis/Nexis. "As we look at different providers, we are looking for those who can provide not only simultaneous usage at many terminals in the library, but remote access as well," Ingish said. "That's a real priority as we look to the future and distance education."

In the meantime, be prepared for possible back-logs at the Lexis/Nexis terminals as students will now share them with faculty and staff. And remember, it is possible to reserve time in advance by calling the reference desk at 554-2661.

From CONSTRUCTION, page 1

be even more limited. A project is currently underway to open another 1,250 parking spots at Aksarben. Along with the opening of these spots, Irvin explains a more efficient bus system will be designed.

Unless one plans on riding a motorcycle or driving a milk truck

in future semesters, the choice parking will belong to those who rise bright and early. Those who do not can count on long walks to class or frequent trips in the school bus. Luckily, everyone will be thankful the school decided to replace the electrical system, because every room will be air-conditioned.

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UNO Profile:

Jayne Ball: a Non-traditional Face at UNO



Jayne Ball, center, pours tea for residents at Seven Oaks of Florence.

by Colleen Sergeant
Features Editor

"I did it. I finally did it," said Jayne Ball after she received her diploma in the mail. "The euphoric feeling it gave me was unbelievable."

At age 55, many are eager to retire from the work force, but for Ball, who graduated from UNO in May, her career is just beginning.

Students are not as "traditional" as they used to be. Today, many people are juggling school, families as well as work responsibilities. Ball chose to put marriage and her family first and pursue her career dream later.

"I always thought I wanted to be a nurse," Ball said. Eight years ago, she began taking classes at Metropolitan Community College

to work toward her dream and was accepted into nursing school. However, nursing school was not fulfilling her expectations, because it was too technical and lacked the continuity with patients she desired.

"I quit school and it was quite devastating," she said. "I grew up in an era that you don't quit anything no matter what."

For two years she contemplated what she really wanted—social work was calling her. Ball, realizing she was not getting any younger, said her husband gave her a good piece of advice that helped her to weigh it out. "Three years is going to pass no matter what and you'll either have your degree or you won't."

"No one was holding me back," said Ball, who has three children and three grandchildren. "I have an extremely supportive family and husband."

"It was such a step for me to go to UNO—that is where the young kids go," she said. "I sat in the parking lot...it was really monumental for me to get out

of the car."

Ball took school very seriously. "I really applied myself," she said. "I agonized over papers that I would write and re-write." These efforts revitalized her. "Hearing the opinions of others in class was exciting."

Instead of dwelling on her age, Ball used it to her advantage.

When applying to the social work program, Ball was hesitant to fill in her age on the application. Then a light bulb turned on. "I thought I'm going to play this up. I'm not going to try to hide it, I'm going to emphasize it in my personal statement," she said. She wanted to work in social work with the elderly, so what more could she bring to the older population than her own life experiences?

College was enjoyable for Ball, since she wasn't "torn in a thousand different directions." Ball mentioned the number of younger women who had children and went to school. "I almost felt guilty getting good grades, while other were sometimes up all hours of the night with sick children and no time to study."

Ball said she is "loving what I'm doing" and plans on working for a while at Seven Oaks of

Florence, a residential facility for independent, low-income elderly persons. As service coordinator, she networks for resources in the community so the elderly can remain living independently.


Ball knows her time is limited. "It's like a regret because finally I've found what I like to do," she said. However, she is a healthy lady with a healthy spirit. "I know the value of exercise, so I'm taking care of myself for those later years," she said.

Ball feels "UNO definitely meets the needs of non-traditional students." Even though most of the students were much younger than her, she never felt out of place. "I think the obstacles are self-imposed...society does not look favorably upon older people," she said.

Ball emphasized "it's truly never too late" for people to pursue their dreams. "No matter what your age is if that is something you really want to do you have to go for it. Your life is so much more complete," she said. "Yes, there is going to be times when you have to make sacrifices and maybe right at that time it may not work out, but don't ever give up on that hope or dream."

"It was such a step for me to go to UNO—that is where the young kids go, I sat in the parking lot...it was really monumental for me to get out of the car."

— Jayne Ball



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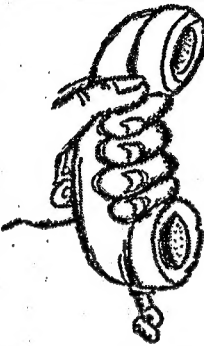
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* The information operator is ready to assist you.

You can also stop by the information window in Eppley Administration Building for information, free notary services, schedules, brochures, etc.

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GatewayOpinion

Jewel's Poetry: Stick To Your Day Job



"Some are walking, some are talking" - Jewel in "Who Will Save Your Soul"

If I had a dollar for every time the words "walk" and "talk" are rhymed in a pop song, I'd be in some Tokyo night club right now wearing a red, vinyl suit with pockets full of yen, drinking mai-tais, and dancing with Japanese super models to beat-heavy music with lyrics I don't understand.

Remember back in 1994 when Jewel was a nobody? Well, I do.

I was the music director of a college radio station. Kind of like KBUL except with a transmitter and without the worthless top-40 music they're constantly torturing us with. We played "college" music, which is anything new that hasn't broken big yet, and perhaps never will (but that's OK). Real college radio people shun popular music like the plague. They leave the sugary, bastardized, concept music to commercial radio. Back in 1994 I had an EP in ro-

tation called "Save the Linoleum" by an unknown folk singer who supposedly lived in her van. One thing was certain about this blonde, hippie-chick: she had pipes. Her voice could raise the hair on the back of your neck and she was cute. (Shrug) People seemed to like this Jewel person so when Pieces of You came out in '95 I put that in rotation.

I was invited to see one of her shows a few months later by her record company. I was promised an interview and went to have a few words with her after the show, but autograph hunters (or, the term I prefer, idiots with no life) mobbed her. The nervous tour manager was more interested in getting her the hell out of there in one piece than getting a little extra publicity with a podunk radio station in the Midwest. I couldn't blame him, but this was an indication that Jewel no longer needed help from college radio. I dropped her from rotation and watched commercial radio snatch her up and lift her into the Billboard charts.

Now, by no means am I saying that I "made" Jewel. The woman has talent, she obviously deserves her success as a musical artist, but she has recently broke one of my commandments. Thou shalt not use your popularity in one format to pass off your mediocrity in another to make an extra buck.

See the graphic below? I call it Self-portrait With Goatee. It should be obvious to you now that as an illustrator I pretty much suck. Should I ever become a famous writer, though, I would never embarrass myself by trying to sell a drawing I've done even though my fans would probably buy it to be loyal. That's called "abuse of audience".

Jewel has recently published



a book of poetry. I've read excerpts I can say to you in honesty, it's garbage. And if you think her lyrics are deep then you are definitely drowning in a puddle, my friend. The real problem here is that, despite the abundance of "good" books of poetry that go unread, Jewel's trash will probably sell thousands of copies and influence a whole lot of people into thinking that's what poetry is supposed to be like.

When I took creative writing courses as an undergraduate some of my peers were actually carrying around books of Jim Morrison's poetry. Ack. Gag me. That guy wouldn't have been able to write a poem if Robert Frost had whispered Shakespeare into his ear while Ginsberg sat nearby correcting his spelling.

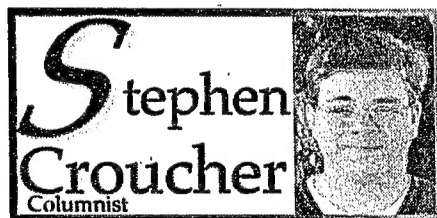
I once perused a book of sappy poetry called "Warm the Heart" by Leonard Nimoy. Uhg. Not only does his poetry make you gag but it also makes your teeth hurt, but due to his post-Star Trek popularity, it sells.

Ever heard William Shatner's version of "Mr. Tambourine Man" or "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds" from his album "The Transformed Man"? It chills the blood.

Jerry Springer (despite the fact I think his show is a riot) is the perfect example of a lawyer trying to pass himself off as a talk-show host. Did you like Cindy Crawford's acting performance in "Fair Game"? Intense, huh? How about Michael Jordan's professional baseball career?

Jewel needs to concentrate on making music for her fans. Anything else is just raw exploitation.

Israel's Netanyahu Must Step Down



Since Benjamin Netanyahu was elected prime minister of Israel in 1996, peace-efforts have been called off in the Middle East.

In 1994 a landmark agreement was signed between Israel and the Palestinians, the Oslo Peace Accords. This agreement called for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Palestinian lands, like the West Bank. It also called for Palestinian autonomy in these areas, along with an end to the expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

In return for Israel's "concessions," the Palestinians promised to help Israel capture and prosecute terrorists. The Palestinians have fulfilled their end of the bargain.

Unfortunately, the Israelis are not doing their part. Earlier this year new Jewish settlements were built in the West Bank and Israeli troops still remain in Palestinian territories.

To try and revitalize the peace

process, Yassar Arafat, the president of the Palestinian Authority, has tried to meet with Netanyahu on many occasions. And on many occasions, Netanyahu has refused to meet with Arafat, has kept Arafat's helicopter in a holding pattern and has simply not shown up for meetings. These are not the actions of a president trying to make peace for his people. Instead, these are actions of a war-monger, bent on domination of the region.

But Netanyahu says he is protecting Israel, and his government is behind him. I'm sorry Benji, but your government is not 100 percent behind you. Last week Ezer Weizman, the president of Israel lashed out against Netanyahu. Weizman went as far as to demand new national elections, to get rid of the war-monger Netanyahu. Unfortunately for Weizman, his position is primarily ceremonial and carries no real political power.

When the president starts to question your capabilities and personality, you should take note of it. Netanyahu has not, he has simply thrown off this criticism as rubbish from an old man.

It appears as though the peace process is over, especially when the US supports an instigator of war. Since when did the US "officially" start supporting genocide, terrorism, murder,

rape, fraud, pillaging and bombings? As soon as some, not all, Jewish lobbying groups in the US gained control of Congressional leaders. The US was thinking about changing its policy toward Israel, and to start supporting the Palestinians, until trouble emerged in Congress.

Some leaders began to argue that the Jews needed a home, and Israel, and all other surrounding areas were fair game.

Why should the US support Israel as a home for the Jewish people, when Israel can't even honor a

simple agreement?

I must make this clear, I am not anti-Semitic, I just believe Israel should honor its word. Until Israel does so, the US should cut off all financial aid, which is a bundle every year, demand new elections in Israel and support the Palestinians.

If Netanyahu wants to keep his country strong, he has to work with the Palestinians and not against them. Only then can peace ever be a reality. If Netanyahu refuses, he's nothing more than a "yahoo" bent on war and domination.

Editorial/Letter Policy

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the NU Board of Regents. Opinions in signed columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Gateway staff or the Student Publications Committee. Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of timeliness, clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication. Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Direct communications to: Gateway, UNO, South 60 and Dodge Streets, Omaha NE 68182.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

After reading Curt Meyer's column, "Get a Grip on What's Real" I asked myself, what was the message here? I reread the piece and decided that, not only couldn't I locate a message, I was hard pressed to find coherent thoughts. In lieu of a theme, corroborated by succinct arguments or examples, Mr. Meyer carried on a rant rendered in potty-language.

This example is from his first paragraph. "Hell, put it between a bun, cover it with ketchup and pickles and most people would eat a fresh turd." My, what a charming metaphor. Later Mr. Meyer refers to a Yugoslavian or African refugee as a, "poor bloated bastard." Then he characterizes a cereal box as a, "damn thing."

I can't help but ask myself, is there a more literary way to express this sentiment? "This is America, damn it. You can sell any old crap if you just put your mind to it." What is a reader to do with this sentence? "Screw beanie babies." That is figurative, isn't it Curt? Please, Editor, if this is the best writing that

you can find to fill the opinion page; leave the space blank.

Dennis Moore
Facilities Management &
Planning

Dear Editor,

In regards to the beautification of the UNO campus, I, for one, would like to express my concern for replanting and replacing the trees destroyed in last fall's early and tragic snow-storm.

An article appeared in the *Gateway* this spring stating that the grounds crew would not be replacing some of the more delicate flowering trees.

Annual flowers are replaced every year around the campus and regard should be given to sensitive trees downed by bad storms - which do occur.

The beautiful flowering trees by Eppley Administration Building on the inside UNO campus walk is a lovely spring sight. Won't you please reconsider and replace the flowering trees for us, if you see fit?

Jacquelyn Fuller

Movie Review:

"Armageddon"

by Andy Nordmeier
Senior Staff Writer



NASA's last ditch effort: a team of roughneck, deep core oil drillers.

Take the action of "Independence Day," combine it with the love story of "Apollo 13" and add to it the predictable ending of every sports movie made and you get "Armageddon."

The story centers around a Texas-sized asteroid hurtling towards Earth at some 22,000 miles per hour. The impending impact will be so huge that it wipes out all life on the planet.

How does the government intend to stop it? By calling Harry Stamper (Bruce Willis,) a master oil driller and having him drill a hole into the asteroid, plant a bomb inside and blow it into halves.

Stamper's daughter, Grace (Liv Tyler) adds the love element and a human perspective to the film as she is involved with one of the men on Stamper's drilling team.

After this point, which is about 10 minutes into this 144-minute movie, "Armageddon" becomes predictable with a lot of explosions. Stamper doesn't like the crew of astronauts NASA picks for the assignment, so he rounds up his crew from all walks of life.

Once in space, a myriad of things go wrong and nearly everyone of them kills off Stamper's right-hand man A.J. Frost (Ben Affleck).

While the mishaps occur in space, Dan Truman (Billy Bob Thornton) sweats it out on Earth as the head of NASA.

The ending is painfully obvious, but there is a twist that caught everybody off guard. Despite a few chuckles during training and great special effects, the movie still tries to do too much. However, it kills the viewer with predictability.



Liv Tyler and Ben Affleck provide a love interest in the summer flick.

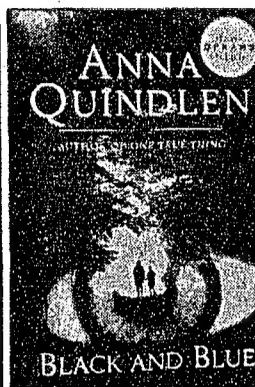
Arts & Leisure

Book Review:

"Black and Blue"

by Anna Quindlen

by Thuy Tran
Reviewer



It's strange how the standard of a great book is now dictated not only by the *New York Times*'s Bestseller's list, but also by Oprah. Books

included in Oprah's book club are guaranteed a large readership, and not surprisingly, end up on the Bestseller's list—although she may never admit to that publicly. Finally giving in this Sunday, I picked up one of Oprah's selections, "Black and Blue" by Anna Quindlen. If "Black and Blue" contains the quintessential elements that Oprah looks for in selecting all her books, then I can now understand how the book club has been such a success.

"Black and Blue" follows Fran Benedetto's passionate and abusive marriage to Bobby Benedetto. Fran describes the bruises and the finger marks left early in their relationship and how later in their marriage, these bruises worsened into a broken nose and ribs, swollen eyes, and a black and blue face. She tells what happened on the night she finally decided to leave and how she and her ten-year-

old son flee to Florida under a new name. But most of all, she answers the paramount question: why did she stay?

The book's most clever strategy is that it is told in first person. Hearing the story from Fran herself, we are drawn into an intimate relationship with Fran. Furthermore, this first person narrative maintains a sense of honesty and artlessness. Just as Bobby's hand leaves Fran's face raw and bloody, her unpretentious and non-poetic voice is raw and startling. Through Fran's narrative, we come to like her, sympathize with her, admire her. But above all, we feel the pain. The fear. The heartache. Consequently, even if a reader has never been or known anyone in an abusive relationship, by the end of this book, we feel we have been both.

It would be cruel of me to reveal the ending, but I must say something about it. The ending stays true to the story line, with the characters, and with reality. Absent are those convenient and tidy endings. Thus, even after closing the back cover, we are haunting because we realize this can happen to us or to anyone.

"Black and Blue" is not light summer reading. The book is too emotionally draining for a lazy Sunday read. But if we should judge a book simply by how well it draws us in and excites us, then this book would certainly be due some high accolades.

Movie Review:

"Doctor Doolittle"

by Stephen Croucher
Staff Writer

Talking dogs, owls and pigs, an alcoholic circus monkey, an obnoxious guinea pig and a suicidal tiger. Put them all together with a man who can talk to them and what do you have? "Doctor Doolittle" starring Eddie Murphy.

The zany comedy puts Murphy and a plethora of animals together and creates a movie the whole family will enjoy.

The main character is Dr. Doolittle. For years he has been building his medical practice, but in some ways neglecting his family. When work starts to pile up and a

See DOOLITTLE, page 7



photo by Phil Bray courtesy of 20th Century Fox

Sprung Monkey: Aggressive, Melodic Effort

by Curtis M. Meyer
Staff Writer

If you've only heard "Get 'Em Outta Here," the single released from Sprung Monkey's latest release "Mr. Funny Face" on Hollywood Records, you might think they were basically a "party band". It's full of flirting girls, drinks, sunny days, and a shout-out to their hometown of San Diego. You'll have to dig deeper into Sprung's CD to find songs like "Going For the Angry," "Tired" and "In Spite of It All". Vocalist Steve Summers isn't out to raise us to a higher consciousness by any means, but he has recognized that more people are listening to his lyrics since finding a national audience.

"They're pretty real," Summers said in a recent phone interview when I asked about lyrical inspiration. "I'm a person. I live, I work and I grow up. That's how I see it, you know? [The lyrics] are based on stuff that I've dealt with in everyday life."

The music isn't overly political though. In other words, the music of Sprung Monkey will not bring you down. They've learned how to give people an extra assertive boost with a positive message that most bands fail to do.

"That's kind of how I felt on that album," Summers said. "Those are the moods I was going through. 'Get 'Em Outta Here' was just kind of a tongue in cheek thing. Everyone in the band helped write the lyrics to that one and we just kind of had fun with it in the studio."

However, the "garage band" days of their inception in 1990 are still evident in the band's name. In



photo courtesy of Hollywood Records

Sprung Monkey, from left Tony Delocht, Chuck Riley, Ernie Longoria, Mike Summers, Steve Summers

the early days the band - which also features William Riley on guitar, Ernie Longoria on drums, Tony Delocht on bass and Steve's brother Mike Summers on guitar - was known as "Love Slug". But now, like their music, Sprung Monkey's name has a lot more...uh...enthusiasm. Summers shied away when I asked about the monkey moniker.

"We just have fun with it," he said with a laugh. Thus confirming my suspicions, but Nebraskans aren't afraid of a few phallic interpretations. Sometimes a cigar is

just a cigar, right?

Although they don't fit neatly into any genre Sprung's music was embraced early on by, what some term as, the "skate crowd". The energy of their music seems to mix well with the aggressive nature of those who enjoy the "extreme" side of life. Their songs have been included in as many as 40 surf, skate, snow board, and motocross videos including films done by director Taylor Steel from ESPN. These films and videos have led to a large following in Australia.

"It's just a blast down there,"

Summers said. "Our music just fits. It's a surf community and they like aggressive, melodic music. We're doing well in [Australia's] underground vibe. We just hit commercial radio on the big Triple J which is their national station."

They've toured "down under" twice and plan to head back after they finish their U.S. dates.

Last summer Sprung Monkey was on the Warped Tour with the likes of Sublime, Sugar Ray, Deftones, Pennywise, and Tool. All of Interscope's "M.O.M." (Music for Our Mother Ocean) compilations have featured Sprung Monkey contributions, as has the soundtrack for the Carrot Top movie Chairman of the Board.

"It's funny when we go to the Midwest because no one's ever heard of it," Summers said about the M.O.M. compilation which also features larger, more popular acts like Pearl Jam, Beastie Boys and Jewel. "I guess it's because the beaches aren't there."

The band was also featured in the background as a "bar band" during the filming of a fight scene in the television show "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

"We're finally getting to eat," Summers said when I asked what had changed since the band's successes. "It's nice being able to tour the country without having to worry about that, but we're still not at a level where we're living comfortably."

Sprung Monkey performs in Omaha Wednesday July 8th and Thursday July 9th at the Ranch Bowl, opening for the Urge.

Hickory Dickory Dock: Eddie Mac Has Come to Rock

by Kathy Daley
Reviewer

contributions by Wendy Townley
News Editor

Three members, three distinct sounds, one incredible band.

Eddie Mac, an unknown and unexpected musical talent, performed at the Ranch Bowl Thursday night along with National B and Tina and the B Side Movement.



photo courtesy of Eddie Mac

Eddie Mac's performance reached everyone in the bar, from the 45-year-old woman, whose clothing seemed to reveal she was trapped in 1983, to the 23 year-old-frat boy who almost bit off his lower lip while grooving to the beat. It seemed everyone, no matter their style or taste, fell in love with Eddie Mac's new, but some how familiar, sound.

Eddie Mac's sound can't be categorized into one type. Their recent CD, "DAMN!", is like three CDs in one. The band said in an interview before their performance Thursday that their sound is a combination of the late Jimmy Hendrix and Led Zeppelin; as well as a blend of recent artists like 311 and Cake.

Such a diverse sound coming out of one band is only possible because all three members of Eddie Mac write the music and the lyrics they perform.

Eddie Mac consists of three men from the Midwest. All three members live in a house, "the mud hut," in St. Paul, Minn. The group

lives together, works together, eats together, and on late road trip home they slept together in their red Plymouth Voyager mini-van, a vehicle that shows no matter what your profession is, some part of the yuppie puppy lifestyle is inescapable.

Eddie Mac's performance reached everyone in the bar, from the 45-year-old woman, whose clothing seemed to reveal she was trapped in 1983, to the 23 year-old-frat boy who almost bit off his lower lip while grooving to the beat.

A native of western Mass., guitarist Pete McCauley holds his own on stage. McCauley not only plays guitar, but harmonica as well as lending his strong pipes to the band.

His curly hair, cute dimples and small build reminded Wendy of a boy that once chased her on the playground, trying to steal a kiss. But that whimsical aura on stage subsided when the pounding of the drums began. It was obvious to me he clearly enjoyed his time on stage especially when he revved the crowd when he exclaimed "hickory dickory dock! Eddie Mac has come to rock!"

The bass player and vocalist,

Mike Mehsikomer, stood above the rest, not only in physical size but also in spirit.

This Minnesota native, who was inspired by blue grass music, convulsed his way through his performance as he pounded out the powerful chords of his bass guitar and belted out his lyrics from deep within his soul. His performance reminded me of the Page & Plant concert I attended earlier this summer in Kansas City.

The drummer and vocalist, Chris Weinberger, the father figure of the band, physically represents Bo Duke off of the "Dukes of Hazard." He even wears the Bo Duke wife-beater T-shirt. But musically, Weinberger represents Animal from the Muppets with uncontrollable arms that some how beats out a steady rhythm that you just can't sit still to.

When I look at these three guys I see three separate musicians whose individual musical talents seem to be in a glass by itself. But pour all the glasses together and you get a flavor that goes down quite nicely.

When asked where do they see themselves in one year their response was that they hope they are still together composing music and performing to loving fans throughout the states and "living out their VH1 story."

Joey Sanchez: Six Months In

by Craig Perkins
Staff Writer

Credit for extra-curricular activities and support for UNO "artists and athletes" are the goals of Student President/Regent Joey Sanchez.

Sanchez has been in office for six months and as history has it, fall classes soon arrive, as well as campaigning for his seat.

Sanchez's thoughts on being a leader are one of action.

"Students don't want someone who's going to be a leader on the Senate floor; they want somebody who's going to get results done." Sanchez makes that claim based on his own record.

Sanchez said he takes any criticisms to heart and wants to do the best job he can.

Sanchez had three goals at the beginning of his term: a fall break, extension of library hours and a computer lab in the Milo Bail Student Center.

Sanchez said the fall break will take effect this year and the computer lab in the student center should be finished by the end of the year. He added that the effort to extend the library hours was a success with a compromise; the hours will be extended, but only during the last two weeks of each semester. Sanchez added that these are the "most important hours to students anyway."

As for future goals, Sanchez considers credit for extra-curricular activities a crucial, if "long-term," goal. He said he worries about starting anything in this area that might not be finished, or that the next President/Regent might not carry on.

For example, "student organizations and student leadership positions on campus...we need that participation and we need an incentive to participate."

Sanchez said "a lot of students are leaving book-smart, but they have no communication skills and that's really what is needed in the real world. You need to be able to operate that computer, but you need to be able to work with this person...how to take this kind of criticism and how to help that person."

He said involvement in student organizations and student leadership positions has helped him learn those "people skills."

Sanchez would also like to see more support for student athletics. Referring to the volleyball team after winning the championship for the second consecutive year he said, "he was dismayed to see them selling raffle tickets to try to raise money for their championship rings."

He said that there was a difference of opinion as to the tuition increase. Sanchez felt the increase did not need to be 5.5 percent.

He also said he was "bothered" by being left out of the action to terminate the tenure UNO psychology professor Gordon Becker.

Sanchez recalls the only friction with the Student Senate occurring over the inclusion of Martin Luther King day as a school holiday.

Sanchez gives credit to members of the Student Senate for all the goals that have been accomplished.

Sanchez says he is "proud to be a part of the senate...but anytime you get 30 different personalities in a room you're going to have some conflict."

At the time, support for the holiday was also needed in order to get support for the fall break from Sara Russell, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Student Regent, but Sanchez did not want support for the holiday as a political maneuver saying he didn't want "to violate the integrity of the holiday."

The House Women Built



photo by Steve Houlton

Roxanne deHaelbus, one of the many women working on the house, nails siding.

Over 350 women began "homemaking" on June 13 when Omaha Habitat for Humanity, Inc. launched its first all-women construction project. The special seven week project, "Women Building Hope and Homes," will provide a north Omaha family in need with a four-bedroom home.

In return, the family will pay interest-free, affordable monthly payments to cover the cost of their home. They must also agree to care for their home and develop ownership skills.

The women provided financial business expertise, materials, physical resources as well as financial resources. Maxwell House, the primary corporate sponsor, matched the \$20,000 the women raised.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization who executes projects like these worldwide to work toward their goal of eliminating substandard housing.

It's not too late to get involved in this particular project, and other projects need volunteers as well. For more information, call 457-5657.

From DOOLITTLE, page 5

big merger is on the horizon, Doolittle runs over a stray dog. Thinking the dog is dead, Doolittle starts to feel guilty, who wouldn't? Then the dog calls him a "bonehead." What? A dog that can talk? That's how Doolittle reacted.

Slowly but surely, Doolittle starts to hear more and more animal voices. His daughter's guinea pig talks to him, an injured owl asks for help, pigeons come in for marriage counseling and two rats threaten to kick his ass.

Eventually Doolittle has to admit the fact he can talk to animals. He's admitted, literally, into a mental hospital.

The movie continues with Murphy talking with more and more animals until the big finale. Now I won't tell you what happens, but I'll give you a hint. The conclusion involves the suicidal tiger and the alcoholic circus monkey.

All in all, I have to give this film three out of a possible four stars. Murphy was funny, and the celebrity voices used for the animals are hilarious. If you see the movie, and you should, try to guess what celebrity is playing each animal, you'll be pleasantly surprised and amused.

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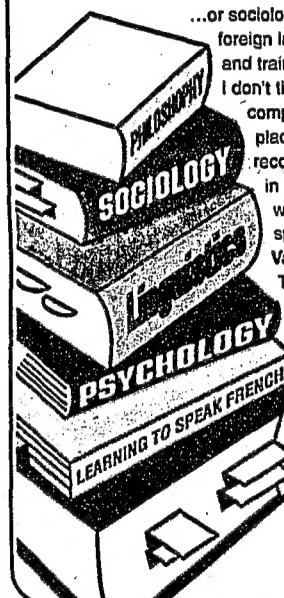
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LIBERTY MEADOWS By Frank Cho



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LESLIE EMBRACE RALPH, AND SHARE WITH HIM YOUR DEEPEST SECRET.



I REALLY REALLY LIKE BARRY MANILOW.



AND NOW, A WORD FROM IR. FRANK "TROUSER MONKEY" CHO, CREATOR OF LIBERTY MEADOWS.

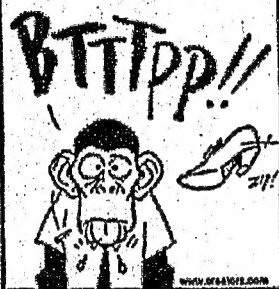
HI, I'M FRANK CHO. IN YESTERDAY'S COMIC STRIP, I MADE LIGHT OF BARRY MANILOW. THIS OFFENDED SOME DIE-HARD BARRY MANILOW FANS, INCLUDING MY GIRLFRIEND.



SO TODAY, I'VE PREPARED A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO ALL YOU BARRY MANILOW FANS OUT THERE, ADDRESSING THIS GRAVE ISSUE.

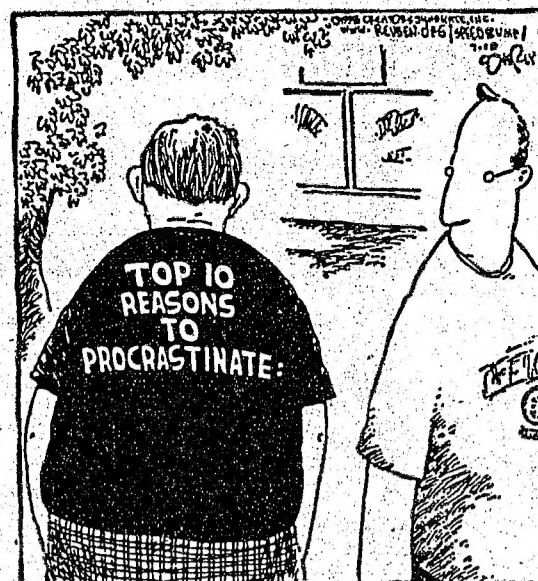


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Dave Coverly



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Dave Coverly

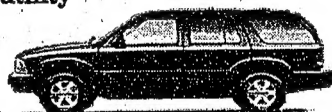


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